

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A traffic control apparatus for controlling traffic between a plurality of client apparatuses and a server apparatus in a service system including the plurality of client apparatuses for issuing service requests to the server apparatus and the server apparatus for receiving the service requests from the client apparatuses to provide the service, comprising:

a unit for receiving the service requests from the client apparatuses to the server apparatus;

a unit for receiving a reply sent from the server apparatus in response to the service request and controlling the number of client apparatuses simultaneously connected to the server apparatus in accordance with reception performance of the client apparatus; and

a unit for relaying requests to the server apparatus with regard to the service requests received from the plurality of client apparatuses in accordance with the number of simultaneously connected client apparatuses.

2. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a unit for measuring the reception performance of the client apparatus;

and wherein

the unit for controlling the number of simultaneous connected client apparatuses makes control

on the basis of the measured result.

3. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a unit for estimating a waiting time of the reply supplied by the server apparatus; and

a unit for sending an access restriction message for rejecting the request when the waiting time is longer than a fixed time.

4. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a unit for changing priority used to relay the request to the server apparatus in accordance with the data reception performance of the client apparatus.

5. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a client performance measurement unit for observing time that the client apparatus receives the service reply to calculate the data reception performance of the client apparatus.

6. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a client performance measurement unit for observing time that the server apparatus sends the service reply to calculate the data reception performance of the client apparatus.

7. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 4, comprising:

a unit for making access restriction on the

request already received from the client apparatus when priority of the request received later is higher than that of the already received request.

8. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a unit for changing priority of the request relayed to the server apparatus in accordance with the data reception performance of the client apparatus.

9. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 8, comprising:

a unit for controlling an average response time to the client apparatus within a fixed time.

10. A traffic control apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising:

a unit for providing a maximum processing time of the request to the client apparatus before the request is transferred to the server apparatus.

11. A service system including a server apparatus for receiving service requests from client apparatuses and a traffic control apparatus for controlling traffic between the client apparatuses and the server apparatus, wherein

the traffic control apparatus comprises:

a unit for receiving service requests from the client apparatuses to the server apparatus;

a unit for receiving a reply sent from the server apparatus in response to the service request and controlling the number of client apparatuses

simultaneously connected to the server apparatus in accordance with reception performance of the client apparatus; and

a unit for making relay processing to the server apparatus with regard to the service requests received from the plurality of client apparatuses in accordance with the number of simultaneously connected client apparatuses; and

the server apparatus comprises:

a unit for sending the reply to the service request to the traffic control apparatus.

12. A service system according to Claim 11, wherein

the traffic control apparatus includes:

a unit for changing priority of the request relayed to the server apparatus in accordance with the data reception performance of the client apparatus.

13. A service system according to Claim 11, wherein

the traffic control apparatus comprises:

a unit for controlling an average response time to the client apparatus within a fixed time.

14. A service system according to Claim 11, wherein

the traffic control apparatus comprises:

a unit for providing a maximum processing time of the request to the client apparatus before the request is transferred to the server apparatus.